

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**METHOD OF APPLYING A LASER BEAM AROUND THE
CIRCUMFERENCE OF A CATHETER**

- 5 A polymeric material may be bonded to a polymeric catheter tube by generating at least one annular beam of electromagnetic energy at a wavelength that is at least partially absorbed by at least one of the polymeric material and the polymeric catheter tube, controllably directing the annular beam of energy onto the polymeric
- 10 material to concentrate the energy in a bond site circumscribing the catheter tube to at least partially melt at least one material selected from the group consisting of the polymeric material and the polymeric catheter tube along the bond site and the immediate region thereof and allowing the at least one partially melted polymeric material to cool and solidify to form a fusion bond between the tube and the polymeric
- 15 material.